



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Affairs Officer
610 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 384-7452

**ODESSA MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
FOR TRANSMISSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OVER THE INTERNET**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today 51-year-old **RONALD J. CYPERT** of Odessa, Texas, was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison for Transmission of Child Pornography over the Internet.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Robert Junell ordered strict prohibitions upon Cypert's use of computers, the Internet and chat rooms and required Cypert to register as a sex offender pursuant to state registration requirements. After completing his prison term he will be placed under supervised release for a period of three years.

"In the last decade, the explosion of the Internet has transformed our lives, mostly for the good. However, criminals are attracted to the Internet, too. By posting these horrific images of children, Cypert heartlessly exploited the most vulnerable among us," stated **U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton**. He definitely deserves everyday of the prison sentence he received."

On June 23, 2004, Cypert pled guilty to three counts of a twenty-two count indictment. By pleading guilty, Cypert admitted that on July 6, 2003, October 6, 2003, and then again on October 8, 2003 he used the screen name "slutabby" to upload child photography to Yahoo! web groups. He further admitted that the children depicted in the photographs are real and that in order to produce the photographs, the children actually engaged in the sexually explicit conduct depicted.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted for the government by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Klassen.

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